

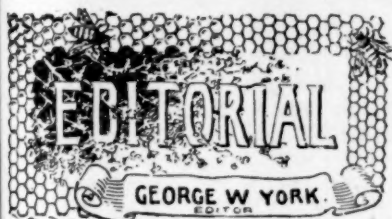
ESTABLISHED IN 1861

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

Weekly, \$1 a Year. { DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO BEE-CULTURE. { Sample Copy Free.

VOL. XXXIV. CHICAGO, ILL., OCT. 25, 1894. NO. 17.



Dr. Miller spent two or three hours with us on Tuesday of last week, when on his way to Jacksonville, Ill., where he attended the State meeting of the Presbyterian Synod. With bee-writing and church and Sunday-school work, Dr. M. is kept exceedingly busy. He'll never rust out, that's sure.

Jacob F. Berger, and his brother Henry, both of Medina, O., dropped into our office on Tuesday, Oct. 9th. The former (Jacob) has been in the employ of Bro. A. I Root for 14 years, having charge of the shipping department, and is a faithful and pushing young man.

Mr. Frank Benton, Secretary of the North American, went home from the St. Joseph convention with Mr. C. P. Dadant, of Hamilton, Ill., and remained until the following Monday. Mr. Benton reports having had "a very enjoyable visit with him (C. P.) and his father, as well as their families." He also found much interest in their comb foundation factory, etc. We can easily imagine what excellent entertainers the Dadants would be. Commend us to a Frenchman for genuine enjoyment, every time.

Mr. John H. Larrabee and Miss Edith Osband, of Lansing, Mich., are to be wedded Oct. 31st. They will be "at home" after Nov. 12th, at 813 Michigan Avenue, W., Lansing. Mr. L. has for a long time replied to Queries in the BEE JOURNAL, but is now succeeded by his brother, W. G. Larrabee, of Larrabee's Point, Vt., who is also President of the Vermont State Bee-Keepers' Association.

We wish Bro. John and his soon-to-be better half, long life, lots of happiness, and all sweetened with the purest honey of mutual love.

Mr. John Winn, of Richland Centre, Wis., called on us last week, on his return from Boston, where he had been on honey-business. His locality is the great basswood region, and this year a large crop of honey was taken. Messrs. Freeborn and Hatch, and Mrs. W. J. Pickard (mentioned on page 456), are all located at Richland Centre, and are extensive bee-keepers.

The Report Begun.—The proceedings of the recent North American convention at St. Joseph, Mo., is barely begun in this number of the BEE JOURNAL, owing to an unavoidable delay in receiving more of the report at this office. Next week we shall expect to make up for it, by giving a "big slice" of the convention loaf.

Half Worker and Half Queen.
—Mr. N. Staininger, of Tipton, Iowa, has sent us a bee whose front part is worker, and back is queen. The colony from which it was taken has a good queen. It is a queer freak.

Mr. H. E. Heath, editor of the weekly *Nebraska Farmer*, Lincoln, Nebr., was at the St. Joseph meeting a portion of the time, after which he went on to Chicago. While here he called on us. Mr. Heath is a progressive farmer publisher, and is making an excellent paper for the country people of Nebraska. The subscription price is \$1.25 a year. We can club it with the *BEE JOURNAL*—both together for one year for \$1.75. This is certainly a liberal offer.

Mr. E. F. Beeler, of Berwick, Nova Scotia, has sent us a nice picture of his apiary of 56 colonies. Mr. Beeler is located about as far northeast as one can get, and still keep bees on this continent. His apiary shows that much care is given to it, and that its owner believes in neatness and attractiveness.

Mr. C. Theilmann, of Theilmanton, Minn., called on us just as we were about to start for the St. Joseph convention. He has about 300 colonies of bees, and is one of the best bee-keepers in Minnesota.

Mice in a Bee-House.—From an exchange the following was clipped by the *American Bee-Keeper*, telling how to destroy the mice that often infest bee-houses, etc.:

We do not believe in advocating cruelty to animals, but we are forced from last year's experience to advocate most strongly the use of any and every means to rid the hives from mice. It is very important indeed that this should be closely looked after—equal quantities of arsenic, white granulated sugar and flour mixed dry, put on little pieces of paper about the hives or apiary, where it can remain for some time without being exposed to dampness, is a very sure way of ridding the place of mice, yet in some instances where they can feed on bees in hives, they seem to care little for the poison.

Here is another plan we have adopted, which frequently gave us good satisfaction:

Take a tin pail half full of water, scatter a little wheat chaff on the top to make it look like a chaff bin. A board from two to four feet long, with one end on the floor, and the other on the side of the pail—in fact, better one on each side of the pail, then scatter a little bran, meal or flour, dust it lightly on the board. The mice will run up and look down upon the chaff where you have the meal scattered, they will jump down off the board on the chaff in the pail to get the meal, the chaff will sink around them, and the mice drown. We

have caught five or six in a pail in one night in this way. We recollect once, in one of our out-apiaries, having several deer-mice and a chipmunk, which had gone into the bee-house from a neighboring wood about 20 rods away. They were so anxious to investigate the pail business that they got into it. Perhaps rats might be caught in the same way.

Prof. Cook writes us that the next California State bee-convention will be delayed until in February, 1895, as by that time abundant rains may have fallen, and thus will encourage bee-keepers, and cause a larger attendance at the meeting. Recently an inch of rain fell, which was a very rare thing for September in California, and all hope it will keep on.

None Paid Better.—Mr. C. D. Duvall, of Spencerville, Md., who advertises queens, etc., almost constantly in the *AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL*, wrote us on Oct. 8, 1894:

FRIEND YORK:—I have sold all the queens I have this fall. No paper has paid me better for advertising than the *AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL*.
Yours truly,
C. D. DUVALL.

It pays to advertise regularly and constantly, in order to get the best results. Try it, you who have anything to sell to bee-keepers.

Fast Friends.—We want to thank those who have written such kind words about the *BEE JOURNAL*. We appreciate them greatly, and shall try hard to merit them. Here is a fair sample:

FRIEND YORK:—Find enclosed 25 cents to pay for three months' subscription for that friend of mine, the "old reliable" *BEE JOURNAL*. We are faster friends than I was aware of when I ordered you to stop its visits at my place every week. I have missed two copies since the first of the month; send them along, I do not want to miss a number. I tell you, I can see the benefits of its visits as I look back. When I take a paper devoted to bee-culture, I want bee-business. Your paper is the best complete bee-paper I ever saw or read.
Burns, Mich., Oct. 11. FRED CARD.

"I think the *BEE JOURNAL* well and ably conducted, and no one, I think, would read it every week without drawing both profit and pleasure therefrom."—John Chrysostom, of Indiana, Sept. 28, 1894.

Convention Echoes.

To tell of all the good things on the generous "bill of fare" at the St. Joseph convention, week before last, would require a great deal of time and space. Thinking that a few paragraphs might be acceptable, we undertake the pleasant task, though we hardly know where to commence.

Beginning at Chicago, we may say first, that Dr. Miller, W. Z. Hutchinson, Dr. Peiro and "ye editor" formed a quartet that thoroughly enjoyed the meeting from start to finish. To us, one of the best parts of the whole convention was the conversational discussions "on board the train" to and from Saint Joseph.

Arriving in the "Saint-ed" city about 10:30 a.m., the first day of the convention, Oct. 10th, we were met at the station by E. F. Quigley, of Unionville, and F. H. Richardson, of Laclede—two typical Missourians. They kindly escorted us four tired travelers to the beautiful Commercial Club room, where the convention was to be held. Soon after having met the genial Pres. Abbott, and others who had arrived, the meeting was called to order. Much good work, we believe, during the sessions, was done. Among the important things was the revising and condensing of the constitution and by-laws.

We think the new President, R. F. Holtermann, has mistaken his calling. He should have been a lawyer, judging by the way he plead for Toronto as the next place of meeting. He was successful, too, against a whole "special car" of those determined Nebraskans. Oh, but didn't they make a strong pull for Lincoln? And how gracefully they "gave up" in favor of Toronto! But we'll expect to "pack our grip" for Lincoln in 1896. We heard some wonderfully nice things about that place, and now we are very anxious to see it.

Only a very few ladies were in attendance; but let us tell you that what they lacked in quantity they fully made up in quality! Now, there was Mrs. J. M. Null, of Miami, Mo. Why, she's a whole convention herself, though she is awfully quiet about it. Probably the next *Progressive Bee-Keeper* will be her "mouth-piece." We noticed she kept her pencil going very faithfully nearly all the time.

Then Mrs. Whitcomb, of Friend, Nebr., was there. It's queer, but Sister W. "talks

through her fingers," and does it very emphatically, too. You should have seen the exquisite piece of beeswax-work she had made and brought with her. It was a "Musical Lyre," surrounded at the base with beautiful flowers—the whole thing made out of beeswax. It won a \$10 prize at a certain fair this fall. It certainly was the slickest Lyre (not "liar") we ever saw. (Some other time we will tell what became of Mrs. W.'s "Musical Lyre.")

Mrs. Strawbridge, the pleasant President of a Kansas bee-keepers' association, was there. Also Mrs. Leighton, of Lincoln. Her son "took down" the proceedings in shorthand for Secretary Benton, so we may expect to have an excellent report. Mr. Leighton is a court reporter as well as a bee-keeper.

There were some other ladies present, among them Mrs. Abbott, the good wife of the President. You can tell her, if you wish, that we said she is the best cook in Missouri—surely, so far as we know. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating"—and that's how we can speak so positively about Mrs. Abbott's culinary accomplishments. If Missouri has any young ladies who will likely ever approach Mrs. Abbott in efficiency and capability in the housekeeping line, we'd advise our young gentlemen friends to seek their life partners in that portion of Uncle Sam's domain.

Besides being a practical farmer, teacher, preacher and bee-keeper, Pres. Abbott is a most able presiding officer. He keeps things moving, too. No danger of any one going to sleep in his audience! And what a worker he is! Why, he had St. Joseph plastered with big card-board notices of the meeting; he wrote several hundred letters to various agricultural papers about the convention, and was for a whole year planning and working for a good meeting. And best of all, he succeeded.

Dr. Miller, of course, made everybody happy with his songs and comic readings. But we believe he was happiest when in the midst of a general convention bee-talk—the result of an attack upon the question-box.

Dr. Peiro's occasional humorous suggestions in the midst of a heavy discussion were enjoyed by all. He knows how to make things lively and pleasant. He thoroughly enjoyed his first bee-convention. We hope it won't be his last.

Mr. Richardson, to whom we referred be-

fore, is just chock-full of bee-enthusiasm—and is a regular question-box himself. He believes in sticking to "bee-talk" from first to last. He wasn't alone in that idea, either.

Mayor Shepherd and ex-Mayor Hartwig welcomed the convention most heartily, the latter offering the free use of the elegant room of the Commercial Club. The city papers—the *Daily News*, *Herald* and *Gazette*—all extended every courtesy, and gave unlimited space to reports of the meeting. Some of the essays were published in full.

The Mayor generously invited the members to go with him to see a local Musee, on Thursday evening at 9 o'clock, and also to attend a miscellaneous entertainment afterward. The principal attraction in the Musee was a "talking seal." It seems its natural bark had been translated into the clear and unmistakable order—"Go out!" As we did not hear or see the seal, you can't prove it by us. The after performance, Bro. A. I. Root called a "Variety Show." He seemed to regret (?) having consented to go, but Dr. Miller afterward insisted that his morals hadn't been impaired in the least degree. Bro. Hutchinson and the writer went to the hotel, and to bed, like Christians (?), so neither of us know anything personally about the questionable character of the entertainment referred to. Bros. Holtermann and Calvert, it seems, left before the "show" was over, but we are inclined to think they did so to get a joke on Bro. Root and Dr. Miller! Probably we shall hear more of this joking matter later on. But evidently Bros. Holtermann and Calvert thought it best to follow the seal's advice, and "go out."

The St. Joseph convention was perhaps the most numerously edited of any of the North American meetings. Let's see, there were present, Leahy, Holtermann, Stilson, Root (A. I.), Hutchinson, and the writer. We believe the only bee-papers not thus represented were the *American Apiculturist* and *American Bee-Keeper*. It certainly was a pleasing sight (to us, at least) to see what brotherly feeling existed among all the bee-editors that were present. It's a good sign. May that "sign" never fail!

There are many other matters that we would like to refer to, but this is already too long. Perhaps at some future time we may mention them. Take it all in all, we

believe it was one of the very best meetings the North American ever held. 'Twas not large in numbers, but for downright—and upright—good work, we believe it has not been excelled. We feel well repaid for all the efforts and expense involved in attending, and we never shall willingly be absent from a convention of the North American, so long as we are at all interested in bee-keeping.

"Tis "Matrimony Vine."—Mr. A. J. Duncan sent us a specimen plant to be named, and wrote thus concerning it:

I send enclosed a sprig of a shrub we call "Washington willow," which, I think, is ahead of anything I have ever seen as a honey-plant, not excepting basswood. The basswood, perhaps, is the best while it lasts, which is from a day or two to two weeks at farthest; this shrub commences blooming early in the season, and is in continuous blooming until killed by freezing weather. It is not affected by drouth or hot weather.

In an early day here there was planted perhaps a dozen or more in different parts of our little village, as an ornamental plant; they have been let grow and spread until there are considerable patches of it, and from morning until night, every day when bees can be out, they are just swarming on it. They were working on it yesterday, though all other flowers are killed by the frost.

I can't say as to the quality of the honey, but I think it is good. If I had an acre or two well set with it, I would feel sure of a good crop of honey every year.

A. J. DUNCAN.

Hartford, Iowa, Sept. 25.

Prof. T. J. Burrill, to whom we forwarded the specimen from Mr. Duncan, says this of it:

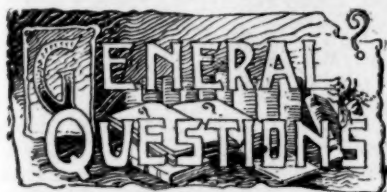
This is matrimony vine, *Solanum jasminoides*. It belongs to the same family in which are found the potato, tomato, egg-plant, etc., though it looks so different from these.

The shrub is very hardy, succeeds everywhere in our country, but I do not know that it has been recommended as a honey-plant, neither do I know anything about the value of the shrub as a honey-producer.

T. J. BURRILL.

Illinois Convention Reports.—

The Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association still have a good many copies of their Second Annual Report on hand, and no postage to send them out. Any one sending eight cents in stamps to pay postage and wrapping, will receive a copy of same by mail; or seven cents in stamps will pay for a copy of the First Annual Report, if any one desires it. Address, Jas. A. Stone, Sec., Bradfordton, Ill.



ANSWERED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER,
MARENGO, ILL.

In this department will be answered those questions needing IMMEDIATE attention, and such as are not of sufficient special interest to require replies from the 20 or more apiarists who help to make "Queries and Replies" so interesting on another page. In the main, it will contain questions and answers upon matters that particularly interest beginners.—Ed.

Keeping Brood-Combs with Honey.

I have 100 brood-combs partly filled with sealed honey and pollen. Can I keep them till next spring and then let the bees clean them out? Or will freezing make them unwholesome for bees? They are selected combs, the drone and crooked combs being used up. J. M.

ANSWER.—Freezing will not hurt them unless it be to candy the honey somewhat, and it will kill worms. Don't let mice get to them.

Sweet Clover on Pasture Lands.

What is the best time to sow sweet clover on pasture lands? F. M. P.
Freedom, Me.

ANSWER.—If you mean on freshly ploughed land, either spring or fall. If you mean to sow on the sod, in the fall; but you're not likely to get a catch unless the sod is well trodden by stock.

Very Late Swarming, Etc.

1. I am a new bee-keeper with only 5 colonies. I had no swarms during the summer; only one colony stored any surplus until fall, then two others stored about 10 pounds each, and on Sept. 29th one colony cast a large swarm, and in less than 10 hours it was freezing cold. The next day, of course, they could not fly, and I gave them three empty frames and some sugar syrup. They now have eggs. Will they be likely to live through the winter if I give them plenty of sugar syrup?

2. Will the old colony which has

plenty of stores be O. K.? I might state that there are still some drones in the yard.

3. Did you ever know of a colony swarming so late in the season?

4. If I have not done the right thing with these bees, what shall I do?

5. Can bees rear brood when the nights are cool, or say when it freezes slightly at night? J. R. S.

State Line, Ind., Oct. 8.

ANSWERS.—1. Although it might have been better to have returned so late a swarm, still with plenty of stores it ought to go through all right. If you have the combs to spare, better give it two or three more.

2. I think the chances are in its favor, although there is a possibility of its becoming queenless.

3. I don't remember how late I have read about. I am sure I never had one myself anywhere near so late.

4. I don't know of anything to be done specially different from other cases, unless it be to supply combs and stores.

5. Yes.

Stone or Lumber for Bee-Cellar.

I am going to build a bee-cellar in a side hill. I have more stone than lumber. Would a stone wall, or rather, an arch, made of stone, do to keep bees in, or would it be too damp, as stone draws moisture? J. W. M.

ANSWER.—Some who have used lumber for such caves, have afterward used stone, as being more durable.

Slats in Section-Holders.

I have a theory on which I would like the opinion of an experienced bee-keeper. Some of my hives have slats for sections, but I have had no experience with them on account of the grasshoppers. Honey has been almost a failure for the last three years in this locality. I had thought that tin rests would give better results than slats, on account of being above the frames—nothing to hinder them coming up where they please. My theory is to get advantage of this, and also the cleanliness of the slat.

I thought during cold weather I would make what hives I need and put them away for the swarming season. I would make them $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch deeper, and then cut the rabbet $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch lower, and put a narrow piece $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch thick across each end to prevent sagging. I will put one in

the center, then lay on the slats. If there are any burr-combs they will come under the slats, and not mark the sections. If there is any criticism to offer, I shall be pleased to hear it. W. C. A. Wood's Cross, Utah.

ANSWER.—The point in question seems to be the desirability of having a middle support to keep the slats from sagging. I can hardly see that it could do any harm, but I've had very little experience with such slats, and that little has not made me dead in love with them. I should hesitate about making many hives on the plan mentioned, for you may want to change after trial. But now the matter is before the whole BEE JOURNAL family, and possibly some one can answer from experience. Do the slats in section-holders sag in an objectionable manner?

Alsike and Alfalfa.

Please name the difference between Alsike and alfalfa clover—the characteristics of both—as spoken of on page 335. Decorah, Iowa. C. L.

ANSWER.—Alsike has a blossom much like white clover, but pinkish and larger. Grows much like red clover, but with smaller leaves and stalks. You cannot miss it if you look for something that appears like a cross between red and white clover.

Alfalfa grows more upright and makes a stronger growth, with a flower quite unlike the clover. I don't like to give a more minute description, for I might get into trouble, having never seen anything of it except the hay in winter in Colorado. Perhaps some one else will describe it.

Wintering in West Virginia.

Please tell me, as nearly as you can, how my bees should be protected through winter, or if they need any protection at all. They are in the Langstroth portico hive. Sometimes it is 23° below zero here. W. C. K. Penbro, W. Va.

ANSWER.—Whilst there is a great diversity of opinion as to the matter of winter protection, I think there can be little doubt that certain kinds of protection are desirable. Generally the first question is whether bees should be wintered in the cellar or out-doors. In your locality I suspect they are better off out-doors, for 23° below is probably

exceptional. Still, I'd rather take the opinion of one in your own locality who has tried both kinds of wintering.

Very likely the thing for you to do is to protect your bees against sweeping winds. Dense timber growing on the sides from which come the prevailing winds is perhaps the best thing. Lacking this, you can supply its place by planting, and for immediate protection you can put up a close fence. Plenty of corn-stalks packed closely around your hives will serve a good purpose, of course leaving entrances free. But some experienced West Virginian can tell you better than I.

A Feeding Scheme.

I have been thinking of trying the following scheme next season. What is your opinion of it? It is this: To set apart one colony for feeding early in the season, and confine the queen below by a queen-excluding honey-board, give drawn combs above, feed sugar syrup as fast as they will take it, removing combs as fast as capped over, and substituting fresh ones until I have enough combs of sugar syrup capped over to supply all colonies with winter stores; in the fall remove all honey and substitute syrup combs. This would do away with fall feeding, and give me all the honey stored and the bees, and, I believe, better stores. I might make the colony queenless and give bees from other colonies to keep up the strength, but by that plan get laying workers.

My crop this year is 700 pounds of extracted honey from 21 colonies. No increase. F. H. R.

Laclede, Mo.

ANSWER.—Like many another thing, you can tell better about it after trying it with the bees. There may be some difficulty about getting the bees to store continuously from feeders. I shouldn't want to try it on too large a scale at first.

Good Honey-Sellers ought to be needed now, and the little 32-page pamphlet, "Honey as Food and Medicine," has for years proven itself valuable in making repeated sales of honey. Its distribution will create a demand for the honey first, and then the bee-keeper can follow it up and supply that demand. Send to us for a sample copy, only 5 cents; 10 copies, post-paid, 35 cents; 50 copies, \$1.25; or 100 copies \$2.00. Try 50 or 100 copies, and prove their ability to aid you in disposing of your honey at a good price.

OUR DOCTOR'S HINTS.

By F. L. PEIRO, M. D.

McVicker's Building, CHICAGO, ILL.

Only a Cold!

How often we hear the term used, and with a degree of so perfect indifference that fairly appalls more thoughtful persons. The physician only too well recognizes the folly of so slight an estimate of what is usually called "a cold." Not that the primary effect of a disagreeable cold is, in itself, dangerous, but the results that may follow it is the end to be greatly feared. So long as a cold remains within certain bounds, it is only a matter of inconvenience and perhaps trifling suffering for a few days, at worst. But if neglected, or carelessly increased, may become the forerunner of most painful and fatal disease.

"Only a cold" is the usual beginning of a severe pleurisy or dangerous lung fever. "Only a cold" is often the first and certain step to that horrible torment—inflammatory rheumatism! Can any suffering be worse? And is a patient ever again free from tendency of recurrence after the first attack?

"Only a cold" has been responsible for various forms of kidney-trouble, of which Bright's disease is one, and incurable, so far as yet known.

Inflammation of bowels and stomach is another frequent result of a common cold, to say nothing of neuralgias, diarrheas, dysentery, sore throats, catarrhs, and many other difficulties, the results of colds. My object in stating facts so plainly is the hope of warning my readers, and thus, mayhap, be instrumental in warding off great suffering.

Now, when I have a cold I endeavor to take the best possible care of myself. I am free to acknowledge I may be a little cowardly about the matter, but after thirty years' pretty close observation of others' sufferings, largely through their want of knowledge or willfulness, I conclude best to use the judgment I have acquired, and take smallest chances to encourage pain or shorten my years. To this end I take the proper remedy in time—No. 1—contained in the BEE JOURNAL Family Medicine Case. Keep comparatively quiet, in a warm room; eat very lightly, drink all the hot water or

hot milk I wish, cover up well in bed, and in 24 hours I come out all right, whereas, neglected a few days, I might be laid up for as many days suffering agonies!

The public have a general idea that doctors use some secret remedy to keep off disease and avoid contagion. Nothing of the kind. They simply use their knowledge of possible results, and are careful to avoid unnecessary exposure—advantages that any one may profit by, if equally painstaking.



CONDUCTED BY

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY,
BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

PROFITABLE BEE-KEEPING.

Lesson No. 12.

(Continued from page 461.)

DIFFERENT RACES OF BEES AND THEIR HABITS.

I think it is about time I was telling about the different races, strains, etc., of bees kept in America.

BLACK OR NATIVE BEES.

I will take up the black or native bees first. These bees have been here since civilization began, as far as I know, and we could have made out with them if we had never gotten anything better. These bees will store honey almost as well as Italian bees during good seasons, and enter the supers readily, too, and sometimes it seems that they are too hasty to enter the supers and leave the brood-nest almost without honey, and have been known to starve and suffer just after the supers were removed, as they had all their honey above, and the supers came off at the close of the harvest, and the bees had no more chance to gather honey, and so perished.

These bees usually turn out whiter section honey than Italians, as they do

not quite fill the cells full, and the honey does not color the cappings.

Black bees are fearful robbers, and also become discouraged very easily when no honey is being stored. They are also poor soldiers, as they are more easily discouraged, and their sentinels driven from the entrances, and robbers can then walk in and help themselves. Last, but worst of all, they are more subject to moth-worms than other bees. And to close my remarks on native bees, I will advance my idea that they are a genuine wild bee. We have a wild and tame variety of a great many animals that very much resemble each other, and the black bees seem to want to pull right out to the woods as soon as possible after they swarm. Also, when their hives are opened they run as if they were scared almost to death. All these characteristics seem to prove to me that they are a wild variety of bees. The queens are usually prolific, and the bees hardy.

ITALIAN BEES.

This race of bees made its appearance in America about 40 years ago, by some of our most enthusiastic bee-fathers, but by whom it is hard to tell. But I would be very glad indeed to know just who it was, so that I could note it down for future generations, but I will leave it blank for the present.

The Italians are evidently our tame bees, or bees that have been worked and manipulated by the hand of man more or less since the world was created. I am told by some Italian history that 100 years ago, or less, there were no black bees in Italy. The truth of this I could not endorse, as the historian might have been mistaken.

Italian bees are somewhat larger than black bees, and always, almost without an exception, they leave honey in their brood-nests, and seem a little slower to enter the supers, but store very rapidly when once started in the sections. They are not so much disposed to swarm as blacks, and consequently usually a great deal stronger in bees, and of course gather more honey. They seem more gentle, adhering to their combs while being handled, and sometimes hang around the bee-yard or house longer than blacks, and giving every evidence of a tame variety of bees. They are not so readily disposed to rob, protect their hives against robbers and moths, and, I might say, against any intruder better than blacks. Having a tame disposition, they stay at home and fight to

a finish, when the blacks get scared and run.

Comb honey stored by Italian bees is not so white as that stored by blacks, inasmuch as they usually fill the cells full, and the caps are placed right on the honey, as a little hole is left in the cappings, and they put in honey until it comes clear up to the cappings. Any way, the cappings are against the honey, which gives the comb the color of the liquid honey. But when this is once understood by consumers, they seem to like it all the better, as the rich, golden color looks well.

The Italians are harder to get off their combs at extracting time, or any other time. Being tame and gentle, they hold fast. The queens are large, and very prolific, and easy to find, as they seldom run down in the hives like blacks. I am satisfied they will go farther for honey, and carry larger loads, are more handsome than blacks, pay better, and, all in all, are a race of bees hard to "take down" when all things are considered.

GOLDEN OR 5-BANDED BEES.

This is an Italian bee also. I suppose that almost all old-time bee-keepers, as well as some younger ones, have noticed that the longer the Italians are kept pure, and bred in America, they get more yellow. This seems to be the case with people that come here from Africa—they get lighter after being domesticated. I began looking after this particular trait in the Italian bees in 1885, and for the last five years I have reared bees almost solid yellow, and no bands at all. These bees have about the same traits as the old Italians, except they are quicker to enter supers, and seem to delight in how much honey they can put into their hives. And swarming is not indulged in quite as much as with common Italians. This characteristic alone proves that they will be likely to store more honey per colony, all things being equal, for some bees are hard to keep together long enough to store a super of honey, and the non-swarming quality in the 5-banded bees is worthy of notice. But they will swarm, too, occasionally, and by an honest, fair, and impartial test I have found them, as a rule, more cross than common Italian bees.

But they are easily handled; and, Great Scott! what robbers they are! Whether their being so yellow makes them conspicuous or not, I don't know, but during a scarcity of honey the yellow "ladies" can be seen all over the apiary, and if the weak colonies do not

look out, it is good-bye. But this only proves them to be rustlers, and where the apiary is all 5-banded, they do not stand much show, as they are as good to defend as they are bad to rob.

After a five years' careful test, I am satisfied to hold on to my "Goldens," as well as to the old mossback or leather-colored Italians. They both suit me to to a "t." If I were going to run an apiary for comb honey, give me 5-banded bees; if for extracted, common Italians. Either one of these strains of bees is good enough for the Joneses, and it is said they are the best people in the world. For beauty, the "Goldens" stand at the head, but for business I cannot find any improvement worth mentioning over the old three-banded Italians.

CARNIOLAN BEES.

This beautiful race of silver-gray bees I have given a thorough test the last two years, and their queens are the most prolific of any strain of bees I ever saw. They build up faster, and get ready for a honey-flow quicker than any bees I ever had. They are, as a rule, the most docile race of bees in America, or that is my opinion. Out of the six fine breeders, this year, only one produced bees that cannot be handled without smoke. They store white honey, or, like the blacks, do not quite fill the cells, which leaves their combs white.

They are not disposed to rob, nor do they let a robber in if there is any chance to keep her out. But I do believe that they are the worst swarmers of the whole business. They would swarm and re-swarm, and then rest awhile and swarm again. But they seem to know that they must stop long enough to fill their supers before frost, and all colonies that had a chance came out with well filled supers on the home stretch.

CYPRIAN—HOLY-LAND—ALBINO.

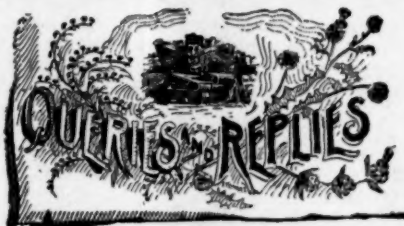
I have given the Cyprians, Holy-Lands and Albino bees a fair test. The Albino is too much on the sleepy order for me, and the Cyprians and Holy-Lands are too stingy to be used by most people, otherwise they are good bees, and I can produce fine honey crops with them.

Now, I have written out this history of the different races of bees, giving their characteristics just as experience has taught me, by actual practice right in the bee-yards, without the least bit of partiality on my part. While my experience along these lines may not be in accord with others, I mean to give my

own experience pure and simple, for what it is worth, to my readers, and you may rest assured that I have given it as nearly right as I know how.

JENNIE ATCHLEY.

(To be continued.)



Uniting Bees in the Fall.

Query 945.—What is your favorite way of uniting bees in the fall?—Wisconsin.

My favorite way is not to unite them
—EUGENE SECOR.

My experience along this line has not been very satisfactory.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

I never unite any in the fall. We make all of our increase by division or artificial swarms, and never have weak ones in the fall.—E. FRANCE.

By filling one brood-box with the frames and all the bees of both swarms, and plenty of honey for winter, then smoke thoroughly.—W. G. LARRABEE.

Read a bee-book upon the subject. The space here at command is entirely too small to intelligently answer such questions as you ask.—W. M. BARNUM.

I seldom unite. I don't want them in that condition that they must be united. In many cases it is best to use a little sulphur and "unite the hives."
—H. D. CUTTING.

I remove the poorest queen, use frames from both hives, and shake all the bees into the hive from which the poorest queen was taken. Before this I have moved the hives close together.—A. J. COOK.

Remove the poorest queen, if any difference; alternate frames from each to be united in a new hive, or a hive that neither of those to be united have occupied. When thoroughly mixed, smoke moderately.—S. I. FREEBORN.

My hives tier up nicely. I just set one colony on top of the other, quietly, on a cool evening, without arousing the

bees. They will become scented alike before mixing, and there is never any fighting, with me. If one queen is poor, kill her before uniting. If they are equally good, let the bees decide the matter.—B. TAYLOR.

Simply put the two together after it has become so cool that bees do not fly much. Lean a wide board over the entrance of the hive into which they are put. Sometimes it is best to smoke them thoroughly.—J. A. GREEN.

At a time when the weather is so cool that no bees are flying, I set one hive upon the other—of course first removing the bottom-board of the upper hive, and the cover of the lower one. In a few days the bees will usually unite without farther attention.—R. L. TAYLOR.

Shake two or more weak colonies together in an empty hive, close it up awhile, then give them their honey and brood, and the *best* queen of the lot, by introducing her by the candy plan. See that they have *plenty* of honey for the winter, and the job is over.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Either place the hive containing the weaker colony on the other, or remove enough frames from the one to put in the brood-nest of the other during a cool evening when they are not disposed to fly. Kill the poorer queen previously, so they may have but one queen.—DADANT & SON.

Set one hive on the other, allowing each colony its own entrance, with passage from one hive to the other only large enough for one or two bees at a time. This passage is to be enlarged in a day or two, or if heavy paper separates the hives, the bees will enlarge the passage.—C. C. MILLER.

Smoke well the bees to be united. Select the best frames of comb, and place them with the adhering bees alternately in the hive to receive them. Do this after sundown. If there is any choice of queens, cage the best. Better pinch the heads off the inferior ones before uniting.—J. P. H. BROWN.

Near night, when too cool for them to fly much, put the hives on a wheelbarrow and "trundle" them to where you wish the hive of the united colony to stand, smoking thoroughly before loading. In unloading, jar about much, and when the bees are filled with honey, say five to eight minutes from the time of smoking, unite as you wish. Remove all signs of "home" from the old stand, and no loss will occur.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Select the best queen; then take a frame of brood and bees alternately from each hive, and fill up the new one. Ordinarily golden-rod is being gathered, so no trouble arises from want of stores to gather. If no stores are being gathered at the time of uniting, I feed for a few days before and after the union. I don't have trouble in one case in a hundred.—J. E. POND.

I have not done very much uniting, so I can hardly say that I have a favorite way. By spraying the bees with sweetened water strongly scented with peppermint, they unite readily, either by alternating the combs, or by shaking the bees down together in front of the hive they are to occupy. If the hives are not side by side, the latter is the better way. If you put slices of onion in the hives, the bees will unite without trouble. I have tried this plan with entire success.—M. MAHIN.

First, I place the colonies that are to be united near together. Second, when they have marked their location, I remove part of the combs, leaving only those that I propose to put into the united colony, and remove the queen at the same time. The queen that I choose for the united colony, remains for the present. Third, I take a hive that belonged to neither of them, brush off the bees from the combs in front of it, which they enter and unite peaceably.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

Queens and Queen-Rearing.—If you want to know how to have queens fertilized in upper stories while the old queen is still laying below; how you may safely introduce any queen, at any time of the year when bees can fly; all about the different races of bees; all about shipping queens, queen-cages, candy for queen-cages, etc.; all about forming nuclei, multiplying or uniting bees, or weak colonies, etc.; or, in fact, everything about the queen-business which you may want to know—send for Doolittle's "Scientific Queen-Rearing"—a book of over 170 pages, which is as interesting as a story. Here are some good offers of this excellent book:

Bound in cloth, postpaid, \$1.00; or clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL for one year—both for only \$1.65; or given free as a premium for sending us three new subscribers to the BEE JOURNAL for a year at \$1.00 each.

Bound in paper cover, postpaid, 65 cents; or given free as a premium for sending us two new subscribers; or clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL a year—both for only \$1.40. Send all orders to the BEE JOURNAL office.

Read our great offer on page 541.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting

OF THE

NORTH AMERICAN

BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

BY FRANK BENTON, SEC.

The 25th Annual Convention of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association was called to order in the Commercial Club rooms, at St. Joseph, Mo., at 11 o'clock, a.m., by the President, Rev. E. T. Abbott, of St. Joseph, Mo.

After hearing the report of the Secretary, the following members were enrolled for the year 1894:

ANNUAL MEMBERS.

D. B. Abbott, Overbrook, Kans.
 E. T. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.
 L. L. Alspaugh, Auburn, Nebr.
 N. Arnold, Burlingame, Kans.
 A. Y. Baldwin, DeKalb, Ill.
 H. G. Barber, Lincoln, Nebr.
 D. E. Barker, St. Joseph, Mo.
 Frank Benton, Washington, D. C.
 Ralph Benton, Washington, D. C.
 H. E. Bliss, West Winfield, N. Y.
 J. W. Blodgett, Empire Prairie, Mo.
 J. H. Brown, Rochester, N. Y.
 E. L. Carrington, Maryville, Mo.
 C. C. Clemons, Kansas City, Mo.
 Dr. T. J. Conry, Florence, Kans.
 W. H. Dancer, Lamon, Iowa.
 Chas. D. Duvall, Spencerville, Md.
 Paul M. Francis, Mulberry, Mo.
 B. Fredenburg, Johnson, Nebr.
 E. B. Gladish, Higginsville, Mo.
 Gould, Shapley, & Muir Co. (Lim.),
 Brantford, Ont.
 E. Ford Gordon, Adams, Mo.
 P. C. Gress, Atchison, Kans.
 Hon. C. Grimm, Jefferson, Wis.
 G. V. Hagaman, Brenner, Kans.
 W. S. Hart, Hawk's Park, Fla.
 H. E. Heath, Lincoln, Nebr.
 O. L. Hershisser, Buffalo, N. Y.
 R. H. Holmes, Shoreham, Vt.
 Frank G. Hopkins, Jr., St. Joseph, Mo.
 R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, Ont.
 W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mo.
 Wm. James, Pleasant Hill, Nebr.
 Geo. M. Kellogg, Pleasant Hill, Mo.
 W. L. Kemp, Farmington, Pa.
 T. Frank King, Landover, Md.
 J. C. Knoll, Glenwood Park, Nebr.
 C. F. Lane, Lexington, Mo.

E. C. L. Larch, Savannah, Mo.
 Louis R. Leighton, Omaha, Nebr.
 Mrs. Lydia T. Leighton, Omaha, Nebr.
 R. B. Leahy, Higginsville, Mo.
 M. H. Mandelbaum, Chicago, Ill.
 H. Martin, Ashland, Mo.
 J. R. Milne, Elm Grove, Mo.
 Horace J. Newberry, Topeka, Kans.
 H. C. Nichols, Amity, Mo.
 C. E. Parks, Watertown, Wis.
 Dr. F. L. Peiro, Chicago, Ill.
 W. L. Porter, Denver, Colo.
 E. F. Quigley, Unionville, Mo.
 F. H. Richardson, Laclede, Mo.
 T. J. Rimmer, Richmond, Mo.
 G. W. Schock, Falls City, Nebr.
 John Schumacher, Weston, Mo.
 L. D. Stilson, York, Nebr.
 Col. T. H. Strickler, Solomon City,
 Kans.

Hon. R. L. Taylor, Lapeer, Mich.
 E. K. Terry, Burlingame, Kans.
 C. F. Thomas, Dorchester, Nebr.
 J. Van Deusen, Sprout Brook, N. Y.
 J. T. Van Petten, Linn, Kans.
 E. Whitcomb, Friend, Nebr.
 John Wier, Carbondale, Kans.
 Geo. W. York, Chicago, Ill.

LADY MEMBERS.

Mrs. E. T. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.
 Mrs. Hiram Barker, St. Joseph, Mo.
 Miss E. A. Conry, Florence, Kans.
 Miss Mattie M. Florence, Adams, Mo.
 Miss Nellie Florence, Adams, Mo.
 Mrs. M. E. Fredenburg, Johnson, Nebr.
 Mrs. H. H. Larch, Savannah, Mo.
 Mrs. Lydia T. Leighton, Omaha, Nebr.
 Mrs. J. R. Milne, Forbes' Station, Mo.
 Mrs. Ella Nieble, St. Joseph, Mo.
 Mrs. J. M. Null, Miami, Mo.
 Mrs. E. M. Phelps, St. Joseph, Mo.
 Mrs. S. E. Sherman, Salado, Tex.
 Mrs. L. D. Stilson, York, Nebr.
 Mrs. Thos. Strawbridge, Ottawa, Kans.
 Mrs. E. Whitcomb, Friend, Nebr.
 Miss Loulu Williams, Sedalia, Mo.

LIFE-MEMBERS PRESENT.

J. T. Calvert, Medina, Ohio.
 C. P. Dadant, Hamilton, Ill.
 Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ill.
 A. I. Root, Medina, Ohio.

Reports as to the number of colonies owned by members, the yield of honey, etc., were then listened to, questions proposed by members were read, and discussion of them deferred until later. The convention then heard the following essay, by J. W. Rouse, of Mexico, Mo., which, in the absence of the writer, was read by the Secretary:

Profits in Bee-Keeping.

I will not attempt an estimate of all the profits to be obtained in keeping bees, but will refer merely to one phase of the question.

I take the position that it pays any fruit-grower to keep a few bees, even should no honey ever be obtained from them. Many bee-keepers do not advise others to undertake the keeping of bees, for the reason that so many beginners will not study up how to care for the bees nor attend to them properly, and so make failures. While this is true in many instances, so far as honey is concerned, there are also very many instances of failures in all avocations of life. The bees are very great aids in the proper fertilizing of fruit-blossoms, and while, in favorable seasons a few bees may accomplish much in a considerable territory, in an unfavorable season, such as a cool or wet time during fruit-bloom, it may be only those blossoms that are near where bees are kept that receive any benefit from the latter.

Trusting this is enough to open the discussion, I hope now to hear from others.

J. W. ROUSE.

(Continued on page 560.)

Utah Bee-Keepers' Convention.

BY GEORGE E. DUDLEY.

The Utah Bee-Keepers' Association met on Oct. 4, 1894, in Salt Lake City.

George E. Dudley, of Provo, was chosen Secretary in place of Mr. John C. Swaner, resigned.

RAILROAD RATES ON HONEY.

A committee of three was appointed to confer with the proper officials of the various railways in regard to obtaining lower rates for the shipment of honey from this territory to Eastern markets. The following were selected as the committee: Mr. Scott, Mr. Reese and Mr. Dudley.

It appeared from the discussion that followed, that railway rates were much higher from Utah to Chicago and intermediate points than from California—to those States. Such discrimination by the railroads met the disapproval of the members, and steps were taken to place the matter before the proper authorities in order to get rates reduced.

A discussion followed relative to fixing the price of honey for the home

market. Nothing definite was arrived at on this proposition.

THE WINTERING OF BEES.

Wintering of bees next claimed the attention of the convention. As much loss has been sustained in wintering colonies of bees in Utah, Mr. Scott, of Springville, was requested to give his method of wintering, as he has been successful in his home apiary. He said he uses the eight-frame Langstroth hives, and sets them side by side and close together on 2x4 inch strips of lumber. He packs the backs with sawdust, after having nailed boards along the back ends of the hives, about one inch from the hives, to receive it. He places an empty super upon each hive, and nearly fills it with leaves or sawdust, and puts the flat board hive-covers (which he uses) on the top of the super. Over all these he places a simple board roof that lies loosely upon the covers. By this means there is a light upward ventilation through each hive that carries off the dampness and keeps the bees dry and healthy, and prevents loss.

Interesting remarks were also made by George Hone, of Benjamin, and others, on the same subject.

An essay was received from Mr. Alex. D. Frazier, bee-inspector of Tooele county, which was read and ordered placed on file. This report gave the total number of colonies in Tooele county as 647, and the number of pounds of honey produced about 31,300.

President Lovesy, in a very able manner, spoke of the necessity of crowding the hives with bees by the time the honey-flow commences, in order to accomplish the best results.

The meeting adjourned to the usual time, next spring.

GEORGE E. DUDLEY, Sec.

Provo, Utah.

Profitable Bee-Keeping, by Mrs Atchley, will continue for some time in her department of the BEE JOURNAL, at least each alternate week. Until further notice we can furnish the back numbers from May 1st, beginning with her "Lessons," to new subscribers who pay \$1.00 for a year's subscription to the BEE JOURNAL—that is, we can commence their year with the number having the first lesson, if they so desire.

One-Cent Postage Stamps we prefer whenever it is necessary to send stamps for fractions of a dollar. By remembering this, you will greatly oblige us.

Great Premium on page 544!



BEE-KEEPING IN CALIFORNIA.

BY W. A. PRYAL.

[Continued from page 502 of last week.]

Many Californian bee-keepers live at their bee-ranches only during the spring and summer months, when the bees require the most attention. During these months the hives are prepared for the reception of the crop that is expected to flow into them; the harvesting done, and after the colonies are found to be in a condition for the winter, they are then left to themselves while the owner goes to town to spend the balance of the year, or perhaps, he goes to look after some other property he owns. Some of these "bee-ranchers" have farms or orchards elsewhere that they can devote the remainder of the year to with profit. As a general rule, though, they live at their apiaries and cultivate a piece of ground in connection with their bee and honey interests. The wise bee-keeper looks towards being a landed proprietor; he secures a forty-acre lot or more. This he improves at the leisure, and almost before he knows it he has a little "Garden of Eden" about him. With a small stream of water he is enabled to work wonders in the warm canyons that are to be found almost everywhere in California.

I know a bee-keeper who came to this State some years ago for his health—he had lung troubles. Knowing that open-air exercise was the most beneficial thing for him, he sought and obtained work with a bee-keeper in Los Angeles county. He had no previous knowledge of the business; in a year or so he was so familiar with all the work about the apiary that he concluded to embark in the occupation himself the next year. He did so. He purchased a sufficient number of colonies to handle conveniently, and obtained a quarter section of land (at that time land was not as high-priced as it has since become in that county—neither was the climate sold as a regular commodity!) Our young friend cultivated a small portion of this land, so as to have all the vegetables he and his mother and brother required. His bees rolled in large quantities of beautiful honey, which he sold at a fair price. His health was by this time fully restored; he therefore branched out in business. More land was cleared and cultivated. It was ascertained that his neighborhood was a fine one for the successful cultivation of all kinds of fruits, except cherries. The settling of his vicinity, and the planting of fruit trees, seemed to have had the effect of causing the sumacs thereabouts to bloom at the same time the white sage was in bloom. The consequence was that the beautiful honey he previously obtained was no longer of that delightful transparent color that it used to be before the sumac bloomed at the same time as the sages. His honey was no longer as marketable as previously; he determined to abandon apiculture for this reason.

There are a few others who gave up their bees for the same reason. And yet

these abandoned bee-ranges are as prolific in honey as they ever were. To those who will be content to produce a dark-colored honey, these ranges offer a fine field for operation. There is no doubt that the time is not far distant when all kinds of honey, as long as it is of good flavor, will sell readily enough. And the difference in the price will not be so great as to make it an object for the producer to desire to produce white honey to the exclusion of the darker grades. The noise that the sugar-honey controversy made will have the effect in making consumers believe that all light-colored honeys are the product of the sugar manipulators. Of course, this will be a very erroneous belief, but it will work to the benefit of the man whose bees have a "dark" honey range to work upon. Verily, "it is an ill wind that does not blow somebody good." But, I am digressing.

Some of California's old-time apiarists have become fruit-growers of no mean order. To cite instances, I will name first the man who, perhaps of all others, did more to make the State famous as a great honey-producing garden—J. S. Harbison. Then there is Mr. Corey, Mr. Touchton, Mr. Bliss, and, I believe Mr. Wilkins, and a number of others. Now, strange to say, none of these men file serious indictments against the bees being the worst kind of fruit robbers. Experience has taught them that, though the bee may help itself to all the loose fruit-juice it may find, it does not maliciously and burglariously break into the fruit and steal the contents thereof. It is the fruit-grower pure and simple who makes this broad and unjustifiable charge.

The senior editor of *Gleanings*, who made two trips to this State, and who wrote up these trips in an interesting manner for his periodical, made some statements about the country which were a little "off color." I am sure he made these mistakes unknowingly. Often a traveler will get things a little tangled up in his notes. This is nothing uncommon with newspaper reporters, and is the reason some people say they never believe what they see in a newspaper. It will not be my purpose to try and set Mr. Root right; in fact, I did not keep track of his writings, and I am sure that at this time I am unable, without re-reading said articles, to tell just where he did misstate things. I remember one thing, however, which seemed too funny to me to forget in a hurry. It was something he said about the kind of hay we raise; about it looking so much like straw. I am afraid some of those "stray straws" from Dr. Miller's hay (?) stack must have become raveled in my good friend's brain. The Doctor would do well to keep those straws of his under control.

I don't know where Mr. Root saw that "hay-straw," but it could not have been up this way; and, from what I saw in my southern travels, I am sure they are not engaged in raising bamboo for fodder for their horses. True, we don't raise timothy, but we do raise a hay that gives us the fastest horses in the world. A hay that will produce such horse-flesh it not to be laughed at. Surely, somebody must have imposed upon the sage of Medina.

A word about our hay. It is as easy to raise as grain. In fact, it is cut out of the same field; the difference is that the hay is cut before the seed of the oats or wheat has got well into the "dough" state. When it is passing from the milk into the more advanced state, it is ready to cut. It is not left to dry up in the field, but raked up after the mower and left in winrows for a day, when it is cocked up, as we call it. Then in a week or so, it is stacked up and let cure for a couple or more weeks, when it is pressed and is ready for market. Some growers do not stack it, but haul it directly to the press. When this sort of hay is properly cured, it looks anything but like straw. Grain sown for hay is scattered thicker than that for grain; the consequence is that it comes up finer, and is not so rank. This hay is sold at about \$12 per ton. The price varies with the conditions of the season. When we have had a sufficient rainfall the price is reasonable; when the season is

a dry one the price is as high as \$15 or \$20 a ton. These conditions also regulate the wheat and other produce markets.

Much of the truck gardening is carried on by Italian and Chinese gardeners. The islands in the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers offer splendid opportunities for truck gardening, as there is plenty of water always handy, and the soil is of the richest nature. Even here the Chinese have large gardens, and ship largely to the San Francisco markets. Such a thing as a dry year is unknown on these islands. The only thing that the occupants dread is a flood, which is occasioned by the overflow of the river, or the breaking of the levees. Some of these islands were flooded by the excessive rains that visited this State last year.

There are some apiaries along the rivers named in the last paragraph. The average honey crop is good, though the honey is not as light-colored as that obtained on high ground. The comb honey stored by the common bees on the islands is sufficiently light to command about the same price in the market as the clear honey from the southern part of the State. It has not the high flavor that the sage honey has, and in other ways it is not as good. However, the islands, or rather the banks of the rivers, in the central portion of the State, are not bad places to establish an apiary, all things considered.

ANSWERS TO CERTAIN CORRESPONDENTS.

No, don't come to California unless you have several hundred dollars with you, and expect to make a fortune from the time you set your foot on the soil. It is as hard to make a fortune here as it is in any other part of the world. Californians earn their living by the sweat of their brows.

Numerous styles of frames are in use here. The one that is most preferred is the Langstroth. Any sort of a hive will do, so long as it is not too small. Small hives are a nuisance, as the bees in them will throw off too many swarms.

Mostly extracted honey is now produced. This is mainly owing, I believe, to the fact that it is easier to ship. The freight rates are lower on it, and it is easier to handle.

Second-hand coal-oil cans that have been thoroughly cleansed, are used mostly for shipping honey. Some producers use new cans, but the majority use the old cans. I have heard that it is getting to be a hard task to get second-hand cans any more, for the reason that the importers of coal-oil are buying up all the old cans to refill.

No, most emphatically, don't wait to get married in the East before you come out here. This State is full of as charming ladies as are to be found anywhere, and who are looking for the right man* to put in an appearance. Perhaps you are that gentleman. You may be sure that the aforesaid ladies want you to come out here and make your matrimonial intentions known.

When you have lived in the State a year, you won't want to leave it. It is worthy of remark that anyone who has resided here for any length of time will never go elsewhere to live. Those who have tried to do it have surely come back.

North Temescal, Calif.

[*It must be that Bro. Pryal isn't quite the "right man," for we believe he has not as yet surrendered to any "charming lady." And how about Rambler? He must be the wrong man, too.—EDITOR.]



A KIND OF MIGRATORY BEE-KEEPING.

BY JOHN CRAYCRAFT.

The subject of shipping bees to the North for the honey crop has been thought over a great deal for several years. I had several long conversations on this subject

with Dr. N. P. Allen, of Smith's Grove, Ky., some twelve years ago. I had about forgotten the subject until I read Mr. McArthur's article on page 305. I wrote Mr. McArthur a letter in regard to his shipping his bees to the South instead of killing them, and then buying in the spring. I made the suggestion to him about as follows:

That on or about the first of September to prepare his bees thus: Extract all honey except some 10 pounds per colony; fill the hives with the best strong combs, with a small amount of brood—not more than one frame full per colony (in several frames), and about one quart of young bees and a queen. To ship them South, to Florida, and come with them and care for them, and get a crop of orange honey in March. Breed his bees up full in April, and ship them home by May 1st, or at such time as suited. Or arrange with some practical, experienced bee-keeper here who could receive them, care for them, get a crop of orange honey, and have what increase was made by swarming; all that swarmed having young laying queens return to him, others with such queens as were sent, if living.

I feel sure if the railroad charges were not exorbitant, it could be made profitable to both parties, if all were conducted in good faith and honorably. I know that they could be returned full of bees and brood, ready for harvest in store for them.

In shipping them from the North to winter here, it might be better to leave more honey in the hives than I suggested (10 pounds) some seasons, as our fall honey along the St. John's River is not very certain. They would not get much until the maple and willow came in, which is about Jan. 1st. Some years it is a little earlier. Orange commences blooming usually about Feb. 20th, and lasts until about April 1st, so that bees on Christmas, having plenty of honey and two quarts of bees, can be made full of bees and brood, and ready for the orange crop the last of February, although more bees and brood to start with would be better.

I commenced the first of last March to build a new apiary. I had 20 fair to good colonies to start with. I made 112 new cypress hives for 10 short or cross-wise Langstroth frames, which I prefer. I have now 110 good colonies on 10 frames each, got 170 gallons of honey, 200 pounds of comb honey, and my bees are gathering honey from golden-rod and motherwort. I will move my bees to the orange groves this winter for orange-blossom honey.

I hope some bee-keepers in the North will make a trial of moving their bees to the South to winter, and gather a crop of orange honey, then move them North for the clover and basswood honey.

I would be pleased to correspond with bee-keepers who might think of embarking in this kind of migratory bee-keeping.

Astor Park, Lake Co., Fla., Oct. 1.



LINDEN OR BASSWOOD HONEY DEFENDED.

BY C. THEILMANN.

On page 212 is an article written by Chas. F. Muth, on "The Best Honeys of the World," wherein he gives the preference to the different kinds, namely: White clover, mangrove and California sage. All other honeys go to manufacturers, principally, almost exclusively.

Mr. Muth has advanced similar ideas heretofore, and it is time to put in a protest against such misleading ideas, at least as far as linden or basswood compared with sage honey is concerned, for table use. It would surely be better judgment in putting *Northern* linden honey at the head of the list, and sage honey for manufacturers. There is no whiter honey than *Northern* linden. There is no honey that is

more crisp than linden. There is no honey that seems to have the same medical properties for lung and chest troubles as has linden, and there is no honey that has that peculiarly fine aroma and flavor that linden has to Northern people. There is no honey that sells for more in the markets from Portland, Oreg., to Philadelphia, Pa., except probably at Cincinnati, where Mr. Muth has been educating people to use sage honey.

A great portion of the linden honey does not get credit due itself, and is sold as clover honey, and thereby clover gets the credit which belongs to linden. To prove this, I will give only one of the many instances that came under my observation.

Sometime in August I went to Minneapolis to sell my linden honey (I had no other). The first question I was asked there by the honey-dealer was: "Is your honey white? Is it clover?" I told him it was white, and there wasn't a drop of clover in it. That it was all linden. "Well," he said, "send me 500 pounds of it, so I can see what it is."

I did so, and after the arrival of the honey there, I got a letter to send him all the clover honey I had. I told him again that it was linden honey, but his reply was, "Send it along."

About a week after I had sent him my honey, I went to our State Fair, and gave my customer a call, and there my linden honey went off like hot-cakes for "clover honey," and since then I have received a number of letters from those that bought some of that honey, asking me if I had any more of the "clover" honey I sent to Minneapolis! Hereby the readers can see that clover gets credit which belongs to linden!

I could give many more cases on this question, but this will be enough. By the way, I got two 1st and one 2nd premium at our State Fair, on a lot of linden honey, amounting to \$30.

Now, what is California sage honey? It is nearly as white as Northern linden, but the eye gets the most good of it, as it is gummy, with no particular flavor, except of alkali and sage-brush. Whenever I taste any of it, it reminds me of the same strong smell, only in a less degree, which was so offensive to me when I traveled through alkali and sage-brush some years ago on the Pacific coast. I never tasted any other honey that is as flat as is sage honey—just like it is with some of the California fruits compared with our Michigan fruits. Many of the people are beginning to know the difference. The other day I wanted to get a crate of Eastern peaches at St. Paul to take home with me. (It was towards evening). But I could not find any in the city. A number of carloads came in that morning, but were all sold, while there were many thousands of crates of California peaches waiting for buyers at low prices. It is the same way with honey. My linden honey always sells from one to two cents higher than does California sage.

It seems that Mr. Muth had the blues over the honey market, when he wrote that article, as near the end of it he condemned all honeys—clover and all—to manufacturers.

Thellmantion, Minn., Sept. 25.



THE NORTH AMERICAN—OTHER NOTES.

BY MRS. B. J. LIVINGSTON.

Now let us get our faces fixed to hear all the good things from St. Jo. We hope every one will emulate that character in "The Hoosier Schoolmaster," who had been "to Bosting." Early and late, tell us what you did, heard and saw when you were "to" St. Jo.

Now please don't have two conventions yearly. Have pity on those who don't wish to feel so badly twice a year because they can't go.

DOES SHE EVER REST?—On page 469 Dr. Miller said the very things to Mrs. Atchley that I wanted to say. Is there no end to the responsibility that that woman is willing to shoulder? Do you suppose she ever sits down in a sleepy hollow of a rocking chair, and, folding her arms, lets go of things for ten minutes? I doubt it.

Mrs. Atchley, when do you rest? Tell us, please.

NOT HONEY-DEW.—Mr. Taylor, in *Farm, Stock and Home*, suggests the possibility of our light fall honey being honey-dew. The drouth in this State threatened our bees with starvation until after the first of August. The basswood here was minus, for some reason, for I had sections with drawn comb on all my strongest colonies, and I did not get a pound of sealed honey from that source. However, the bees are in good condition for winter, and late in the season they stored from 30 to 50 pounds of surplus, per colony. The drouth that has troubled us for two years has dried out the sloughs, and developed some honey-plant that is new to us. We have traced the bees to our big sloughs, but have not found one plant. It cannot be honey-dew—it is too fine a honey—flavored like the asters.

THOSE "OTHER THINGS."—Edwin Bevins, shake hands! I, too, have found those "other things" (see page 473) connected with bee-keeping, and have all too little time to do "what I love to do so well."

Centre Chain, Minn., Oct. 12.



Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.

Bees Doing Well.

Some of my bees are doing well. I have 15 colonies. One swarm issued on August 10th, and it is doing well.

D. H. PAYNE.

Caddo Mills, Tex., Oct. 11.

Two Meetings a Year.

I read the suggestion about "Semi-Annual Meetings" of the N. A. B.-K. A. with delight, and with some regret. I was pleased to see that two such meetings were advocated by the editor, and that he took Maine and Canada, on the east, and Texas and California on the west, and named times of such meetings as the first of October for the West, and for the East in April. I regret that he

failed to give any recognition to all the Southern country lying east of the Mississippi river and south of the Ohio river.

He says that the membership will remain largely local. Having all of its meetings in the North will always keep it so. I know that there are a great many Southern bee-keepers who to-day would be members if they could entertain the hope of meeting with the fraternity of bee-keepers.

I will not complain further, but will make a few suggestions: In the event that through the great wisdom of the members they have two meetings yearly, that they decide them North and South instead of East and West. Starting with one about March 10th, say in California, in 1895; then in October, in the East, for Maine and Canada; in Florida in March, 1896; then back into the central North, say Ohio, in October, 1896; back South to Texas in March, 1897; and then back to the present vicinity in October, 1897. Thus making the meetings every third year within the territory named. This would make it National, and would add greatly to its membership; it would give members in the South an opportunity of meeting with its members, for the meetings in California at that season would be better for the cold Northern members to attend the same in Texas, and especially so in Florida, where many of the Northern and Eastern members would delight in meeting, and enjoy hearing

the busy hum of bees on the orange bloom in March, while their cherished workers were wrapped up in ice and snow in the North.

"Brethern and sisters, what do you think of our suggestion."

Astor Park, Fla. JOHN CRAYCRAFT.

[We stand corrected, Friend Craycraft. Certainly, the South is entitled to its turn in having a meeting of the North American within its borders. We should like to see it go to our Sunny Southland sometimes. Doubtless it will. —EDITOR.]

Central Iowa Convention.

The Central Iowa Bee-Keepers Association met at Oskaloosa on Oct. 5th and 6th. The attendance was light, but an interesting meeting was had. The discussions were full and instructive. The next meeting will be held at Oskaloosa, in December, 1895. The officers for the following year are as follows: President, T. C. Mendenhall, of Oskaloosa; Vice Presidents, Hon. Hardin Tice, of Oskaloosa, T. J. Howard, of Cedar, and G. W. Rhine, of Taintor; Secretary and Treasurer, W. E. Bryan, of New Sharon. The meeting in 1895 should be well attended, as this should be the best bee-keepers' association in Iowa.

W. E. BRYAN, Sec.

New Sharon, Iowa.

Varieties of Golden-Rod, Etc.

I will send you with this three or four stalks of golden-rod of different varieties. One has a large bushy, top, grows from three to four feet high, and is worthless as a honey-plant. Another kind that somewhat resembles corn-tassel, I think, is also worthless for bees, so far as I have seen. But then there are two other kinds that are good, as I have frequently seen bees working on them. One is a square top, about two feet high, with a reddish looking stem, and deep yellow flowers. The other kind—the best of all for bees or honey—is a small kind, and grows from one to two feet high, with reddish purple stem, and spire or cone-shaped top, with bright yellow flowers. I have watched this plant quite closely this fall, and I never saw bees working on anything better. The trouble is, there are not enough of them.

I would say for the benefit of H. H. H., on page 458, get of this last-named

variety, if he thinks of planting golden-rod.

I have been a reader of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for nine or ten years. I have had my ups and downs with bees, and some experiences not worth while to mention here. I started last spring with 60 colonies, and worked them for comb honey, but got only a little surplus honey—about 400 pounds in all, but they are in good condition for winter quarters, with plenty of basswood honey to last them until spring.

My apiary is located about two miles north of the Iowa river, and about one mile from the nearest basswood trees—a little too much to one side of the basswood for best results in times when it is yielding nectar, which it did this year to perfection, or at least it bloomed well, and lasted for fully two weeks, but our bees were in poor condition to gather the nectar—too weak in numbers.

Ackley, Iowa, Oct. 15. N. YOUNG.

[Friend Young, the specimens of golden-rod came all right. Thank you. We are quite sure that several of the varieties you sent do not grow around Chicago. The only kind we have noticed here is the one with a bunch of bloom at the top.—EDITOR.]

In Good Condition for Winter.

I took from the cellar 22 colonies of bees on March 24, 1894, having lost only two colonies by uniting in the cellar. They did well up to June 1st, when the drouth, which lasted until Sept. 1st, shut them off so that they gathered a small amount of surplus. Of light honey I got 370 pounds, and of dark 330, or 700 pounds in all; but my bees (30 colonies, including increase) are in good condition for winter, with plenty of stores. My honey was all in one-pound sections.

AUSTIN REYNOLDS.

Cataract, Wis., Oct. 8.

Second Year's Experience.

We are very much interested in bees, have read the BEE JOURNAL one year, and think we cannot do without it. This is our second year. We started with seven colonies, and only increased to 10 the first season. The past season we increased to 26. We lost a part of one swarm. They were going to the woods as fast as they could go. They had only been hived about one hour when we saw

them leaving. They never stopped to cluster. My husband shot among them, and about half came back, but without the queen. We gave them eggs from another hive, and they are a good, strong colony now. We have averaged 110 pounds per colony, spring count, with 300 pounds left unsealed.

OLIVE ARTMAN.

Artman, Colo., Oct. 13.

Honey from Golden-Rod.

I notice in this week's BEE JOURNAL that H. H. H. would like to know the kind of golden-rod which the bees get honey from. We have a good many kinds of golden-rod here, but there is only one kind that bees work on. The golden-rod with the flat top is the kind. I have had bees gain $11\frac{1}{2}$ pounds a day on golden-rod. It lasts about two weeks.

If you want the seed, I can furnish it.

GEO. W. NANCE.

Anthon, Iowa, Oct. 13.

One of the Asters.

I send a blossom of a plant which grows in great abundance in this neighborhood. The bees work on it more than any other flower. I would like to know the name of it.

Agency, Iowa. D. S. FARNSWORTH.

[This is *Aster laevis*. It seems to have attracted considerable attention recently from the numbers of bees found upon it; still there is a question as to whether they are getting much nectar. The bees certainly gather pollen from the plant in considerable quantities.—T. J. BURRILL.]

Another Apicultural "Don't."

Now and then the bee-papers come out with a string of apicultural "Donts." I want to be allowed to add one more to the string, though it may be that it has appeared before. I want to say to beginners in bee-keeping, don't presume too much on the good nature of your bees.

I have a lively recollection of the consequences, once upon a time, of overconfidence on the part of the writer. I had been working along through the early part of the season without the use of much smoke, and so I got careless about having the smoker in good working order every time I opened a hive.

One hot day, a year ago last summer, I fired up, and went out about noon to remove a case of sections from the hive. I smoked a little at the entrance and set the smoker down, and then pried up the end of the section-case. The bees began to come out pretty lively, and I caught up the smoker to check their advance, but the smoker would not work, and their advance was not checked. There was a hole in the knee of my overalls about as big as the palm of my hand, and my knee was just on a level with the opening I had made between the hive and super. The reader can imagine what followed. I beat a retreat for the time being, but soon returned and got that case of sections.

Persons having the rheumatism and wanting to apply the bee-sting remedy, can possibly get some good suggestions from the above experience. They will see at once how easy it is to get the remedy applied right on the exact locality of the disease.

EDWIN BEVINS.

Leon, Iowa.

Bees Did Splendidly.

I began last spring with 7 colonies, six in good condition and one very poor. Bees did splendidly for this year. I had an average of about 40 pounds per colony, and 4 swarms. My bees are in the Langstroth frame hives. The bees in this vicinity are all in box hives, or in Root hives, but their owners never see the inside of a hive from one year's end to the next, yet they know (!) all about bees, and say, "You tinker with your bees too much!" Why cannot we have a bee-inspector? I tell you, their hives are foul-brood traps! FRED CARD.

Burns, Mich., Oct. 11.

[Friend Card, you probably will have to get a foul brood law in your State, and then bee-inspectors will be appointed to see that the law is enforced.—EDITOR.]

"Foul Brood: Its Natural History and Rational Treatment," is the title of an interesting booklet by Dr. Wm. R. Howard, of Texas. It also contains a review of the work of others on the same subject. It is being sold at the office of the BEE JOURNAL. Price, postpaid, 25 cents; or clubbed with the BEE JOURNAL for one year—both together for \$1.15.

Have You Read page 515 yet?